

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A computer generated entity, comprising:
a plurality of attributes, wherein at least one such attribute defines the vitality of the entity; and
a plurality of actions, at least one of which will affect the vitality of the entity; wherein
said actions simulate actions by the entity on objects in an environment;
the environment is a computer generated simulated environment; and
the computer generated entity identifies the objects by calculating one or more precepts
identified with the objects.
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (original) The computer generated entity of claim 1, wherein:
simulated death occurs when the actions result in a reduction of vitality below a preset level.
5. (original) The computer generated entity of claim 1, wherein:
vitality level is determined by a quantity of energy packets.

6. (currently amended) A computer interface, comprising:
a digital life form having a plurality of attributes;
a plurality of actions which may be accomplished by the digital life form; and
a selection criteria for selecting from said plurality of actions; wherein
repeated selection of actions which do not contribute to the vitality of the digital life form will
result in the simulated death of the digital life form, and
said digital life form perceives a plurality of objects in an environment;
said objects are identified by the digital life form according to precepts;
the precepts are perceived properties of the objects; and
said actions are selected to optimize vitality dependant upon the particular objects perceived.
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (original) The computer interface of claim 6, wherein:
said actions are taken to optimize at least one of a plurality of simulated feelings.
10. (original) The computer interface of claim 9, wherein:
at least one of the simulated feelings is a feeling of fullness.
11. (original) The computer interface of claim 10, wherein:
the feeling of fullness is represented by a quantity of energy packets.

12. (currently amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having a computer readable program code embodied thereon configured to operate on a computer, comprising:

code to cause the computer to keep track of a list of attributes of a digital life form;

code for causing the digital life form to formulate concepts based on at least one percept of at least one object;

code to cause the computer to cause the digital life form to take actions to maintain its own vitality.

13. (original) The computer program product of claim 12, wherein:
said actions are selected from a list of actions programmed into the computer.

14. (original) The computer program product of claim 12, wherein:
at least one consequence of the selection of said actions is the termination of the digital life form.

15. (original) The computer program product of claim 12, wherein:
at least one of the attributes of the digital life form is a simulated feeling.

16. (currently amended) A method for creating a digital life form, comprising:
defining a digital life form;
providing access for the digital life form to an environment;
defining a plurality of potential actions for the digital life form;
providing at least one object in the environment;
providing the object with a characteristic;
providing the digital life form with the ability to form percepts based on the characteristic of the object;
providing the digital life form with the ability to select from said plurality of potential actions based, at least in part, on the percepts; and
providing consequences to the digital life form for such actions.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein:
said digital life form includes a plurality of attributes.
18. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein:
said environment is a computer generated simulated environment.
19. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein:
at least one of said actions includes EAT.
20. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein:
EAT is defined as assimilating energy packets to increase the vitality of said digital life form.
21. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein:
at least one consequences of said actions is the simulated death of said digital life form.
22. (original) The method of claim 16, and further including:
providing a strategy for selecting from said plurality of actions.
23. (currently amended) A method for simulating consciousness, comprising;
identifying perceived characteristics of objects in an environment based on perceptions of the objects; and
storing lists of said characteristics; and
forming concepts based on the perceived characteristics.
24. (canceled)
25. (original) The method of claim 23, and further including:
acting on at least one of said objects according to the perceived characteristics of that object.

26. (canceled)

27. (canceled)

28. (canceled)

29. (currently amended) A method for forming concepts in a Digital Life Form, ~~wherein~~
comprising:

~~percepts are formed~~ forming percepts based on perceived characteristics of objects; and
~~compared using said perceived characteristics~~ to form concepts.

30. (original) The method of claim 29, wherein:
concepts are compared to form conceptual chains.

31. (original) The method of claim 29, wherein:
concepts are associated with natural language words.